

**APPARATUS FOR EVALUATING A
PATIENT'S LARYNGEAL COUGH REFLEX
AND ASSOCIATED METHODS**

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Abstract Of The Disclosure

10 An apparatus and method for evaluating a patient's laryngeal cough reflex function includes a nebulizer capable of being actuated to atomize a cough-inducing substance, a switch associated with the nebulizer, the switch responsive to actuation of the nebulizer, and a connection between the switch and an EMG machine to thereby activate the EMG machine responsive to the switch. Elapsed time between switch actuation and electrical activity sensed in a muscle which contracts to produce a cough is indicative of status of the patient's laryngeal cough reflex.